

House Resolution No. 444

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives have tremendous esteem for those military veterans whose legacy of service is as enduring and complex as is the history of the Show-Me State and the great democratic republic to which it belongs; and

Whereas, at the dawn of the twenty-first century, today's World War II veterans truly represent the diversity of this great country, coming from all economic backgrounds, religions, social classes, and racial groups and uniting under the banner of military service as well-trained former members of the United States Army, Navy, or Air Force branches; and

Whereas, upon completion of their military endeavors, veterans returned to their neighborhoods and communities in order to engage in civilian careers, civic service, and charitable acts of volunteerism, including joining like-minded fellow veterans in groups that engage in beneficial social activities and in necessary lobbying efforts to ensure that the men and women who enter the military subsequently receive the quality educational, health, and other lifetime benefits that they so well deserve; and

Whereas, during the 2001 Legislative Session, the Missouri General Assembly joined together to pass an initiative to pay tribute to the estimated 123,000 World War II veterans still living in Missouri through the issuance of honorary medals and certificates; and

Whereas, on Saturday, February 23, 2002, state officials will hold a special presentation at the Missouri Veterans Home-St. Louis to recognize a select group of Missourians who unflinchingly labored for the restoration of peace and the overthrow of tyranny through honorable service in the United States military; and

Whereas, Robert Ragsdale served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1944, rose to Private, and therefore earned the special accolades and honors embodied in his Missouri medal and certificate:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-first General Assembly, join unanimously to salute World War II soldier Robert Ragsdale who enhanced the stellar reputation of the United States worldwide through his unselfish contribution of time and energy and to acknowledge the deep debt that society owes him for his honorable giving of a portion of his life so that subsequent generations of Americans could live in freedom and prosperity; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Missouri World War II military veteran Robert Ragsdale.

Offered by _____
Representative Juanita Head Walton
District No. 69

I, Jim Kreider, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-first General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 444, adopted February 22, 2002.

Jim Kreider, Speaker

